

August 13, 1968

Mr. Robert D. Lilley, President  
N.J. Bell Telephone Company  
101 Commerce Street  
Newark, New Jersey 07102

Dear Rob,

I read your recommendations in the Newark Star Ledger yesterday regarding your Commission's report and I can't agree with them more. A small, continuing group is indeed necessary if we are to press on with the recommendations made by the commission.

We in Newark, have a special interest, of course, in both the achievement of the ultimate goals outlined by the commission and in periodic evaluations of how various groups -- government and private -- are responding to your challenge.

As you are no doubt aware, we in city government have taken action on part or all of every recommendation which applied to matters handled directly by the city administration.

The only deviation from your recommendations came in our conviction that the Ombudsmen concept was a good deal fresher, more promising and more inclusive than a review board. Legislation to establish the office, with subpoena power, is now before the State Legislature.

We also have endorsed some of the more far-reaching recommendations, such as the State take-over of our schools, abolition of the Municipal Court and a grand jury investigation of what you termed "the pervasive feeling of corruption" in Newark.

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We believe, in fact, that we in city government have acted more vigorously than any other agency or level of government involved in your recommendations.

I would greatly appreciate your evaluation of the overall progress made by city government in acting upon your recommendations. If you are unfamiliar with the many specific actions we have taken, I would be happy to meet with you and brief you in detail.

Warmest personal regards,

Sincerely,

HJA/TMc

HUGH J. ADDONIZIO  
MAYOR

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